

Chess boxing 象棋拳击

Vocabulary: Boxing and chess 词汇: 拳击和象棋

Can you be **brainy** and **brawny** at the same time?
The sport of chess boxing suggests you can.

The former boxing **world heavyweight champion**, Lennox Lewis, is keen to dismiss the idea that if you're muscular you can't be smart enough to succeed in a **cerebral** game like chess – a sport he's enthusiastic about. When Lewis's chess **adversaries** find out he used to **box**, they're certain they'll defeat him. "And when I beat them, they're upset", he says.



Can an athlete be strong and smart?

In chess boxing two competitors play **alternating** rounds of chess and boxing. After trying to **bruise** each other around the face and body, they remove a glove and continue the **duel**, sweating and **panting**, over the 64 squares of the chessboard. This continues until a winner is declared by **knockout**, **checkmate** or a points victory.

This unusual sport, which is **taking off** in countries as diverse as India and Germany, was created by artists. Dutch performing artist Iepe Rubingh invented it in 2003, drawing inspiration from the comic 'Cold Equator' by Enki Bilal.

The chess **grandmaster** Jonathan Rowson says that boxing is the sport which most closely **resembles** chess. "In part it's the purity of the competition," he says. "There is virtually nothing to **mediate** the one-to-one combat. Boxing has gloves, but there are no balls, no goalposts or racquets."

Rowson concludes that in chess, defeated players have nothing to blame other than their own lack of mental ability.

And a defeat can be **crushing**, according to the Russian former chess world champion Garry Kasparov. He described the boardgame as "the most violent sport there is", which aims to "destroy the adversary's **ego**".

Lennox Lewis doesn't go that far, but the love of chess helped him during his tough **upbringing** in London. He says it's all about strategy: "When someone calls you a name, you want to punch them out... but chess teaches you to think through the next **moves**".

So next time you see a muscular boxer, don't dismiss them as a **simpleton**. They might be able to hurt not only your face, but also your pride.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Why are Lennox Lewis's chess adversaries surprised when he defeats them?
2. How do you win a game of chess boxing?
3. Who said chess is the most violent of sports?
4. Which expression means 'to be similar to' something else?
5. Which expression means 'breathing heavily'?

Exercise 练习

请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。从每个表格中选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. The spectators went silent when the boxing champion collapsed. The _____ was very unexpected.

checkmate	knockout	racquet	one-to-one combat
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2. Mary fights a lot with her husband. She _____ it on his heavy drinking.

mediates	bruises	dismisses	blames
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3. Ann likes to play tennis. She carries her _____ with her everywhere in case she has a match.

goalposts	gloves	racquet	ego
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4. Could I borrow your towel? It is very hot today and I am _____ a lot.

sweating	panting	bruising	crushing
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5. Tony's classmates always seek his advice before exams. He's _____.

brawny	brainy	a simpleton	muscular
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Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

Quiz 小测验

1. Why are Lennox Lewis's chess adversaries surprised when he defeats them? **Because he is a former boxer and they think he might not be intelligent.**
2. How do you win a game of chess boxing? **By knockout, checkmate or a points victory.**
3. Who said chess is the most violent of sports? **Garry Kasparov**
4. Which expression means 'to be similar to' something else? **To resemble**
5. Which expression means 'breathing heavily'? **Panting**

Exercise 练习

1. The spectators went silent when the boxing champion collapsed. The **knockout** was very unexpected.
2. Mary fights a lot with her husband. She **blames** it on his heavy drinking.
3. Ann likes to play tennis. She carries her **racquet** with her everywhere in case she has a match.
4. Could I borrow your towel? It is very hot today and I am **sweating** a lot.
5. Tony's classmates always seek his advice before exams. He's **brainy**.

Glossary 词汇表

Brainy	聪明的
brawny	强壮的
world heavyweight champion	世界重量级（拳王）冠军
cerebral	运用智力的
adversary	对手
to box	打拳击
alternating	交替的
to bruise	打伤
Duel	决斗
to pant	气喘吁吁
knockout	（在拳击比赛中）击倒对手获胜
checkmate	（象棋比赛中）将死
to take off	开始流行
grandmaster	大师
to resemble	类似于
to mediate	影响，调解
crushing	毁灭性的，（给人带来）沉重打击的
Ego	自尊心
upbringing	（从小的）培养，教养，养育
a move	一步棋
simpleton	头脑简单的人，傻瓜